

South Carolina Board of Economic Advisors

Statement of Estimated State Revenue Impact

Date: February 19, 2008 (As amended 02/20/08 for typos) **Bill Number:** S. B. 873
Author: Knotts and O'Dell **Committee Requesting Impact:** Senate FG&F

Bill Summary

A bill to amend Section [50-9-510](#), Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, relating to hunting licenses for small game generally; and to amend Section [50-9-540](#), relating to statewide fishing licenses, so as to reduce the fee for a statewide hunting license, a statewide fishing license, and a statewide combination license for members of the United States Armed Services who are considered residents of this State.

REVENUE IMPACT ^{1/}

This bill is expected to reduce funds allocated to the DNR by a total of \$224,004 in FY 2008-09, of which \$55,501 applies to restricted funds and \$166,503 applies to federal funds. The bill would have no impact on state General Fund revenue in FY 2008-09.

Explanation

This bill sets a reduced fee for certain hunting and fishing licenses to be issued to active duty military personnel of U.S. Armed Forces and their dependents, as residents of this State under Section 50-9-30(A)(1)(b), as follows: Resident Hunting license, \$12 fee cut to \$5; Resident Freshwater Fishing licenses, \$10 fee cut to \$5; and Resident Combination Freshwater Fishing (FW), Hunting & Big Game license, \$25 fee cut to \$10. Current language does not change respective amount per fee that is retained by private sales agents. Any fee for which the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) receives a net distribution of \$9 or more is basis for a 75% formula match rate to receive additional federal funds by program.

Based on information from the DNR and a recent demographic analysis of military manpower by state, we estimate a total of 7,523 licenses at a reduced fee would apply in FY 2008-09. The breakdown of total licenses to be issued at aforementioned rates to active duty military/dependents is as follows: Hunting, 293; FW Fishing, 5,500; and Combination FW Fishing, Hunting and Big Game, 1,730.

Based on current fee allocations and associated federal matching funds, the DNR would lose a total of \$204,892 in FY 2008-09. Of this total loss to the DNR, \$55,501 is applicable to restricted funds and \$166,503 to federal funds. No revenue from these hunting/fishing licenses is currently allocated to the state's General Fund. This proposal is therefore not expected to impact state General Fund revenue in FY2008-09.

Analyst: Di Biase

/s/ William C. Gillespie
William C. Gillespie, Ph.D.
Chief Economist

^{1/} This statement meets revenue impact requirements of Section 2-7-71 for a state impact by BEA, Section 2-7-76 for a local impact or Section 6-1-85(B) for an estimate of the shift in local property tax incidence by Office of Economic Research (OER).